

## REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed May 2, 2006, the specification was "objected to"; claim 11 was allowed; claims 1-3 and 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mitsunori (JP-2000-021155); claims 4-5 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mitsunori in view of an Official Notice cited by the Examiner. The foregoing objections, rejections and Official Notice are respectfully traversed.

The Specification has been amended to overcome the objections. Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the present invention. Support for the claim amendments can be found, for example, at FIG. 3 of the present invention.

Claims 1-11 are currently pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been to recite "a slim optical disc drive...wherein the lower case comprises: a first frame which supports a first side of the tray, a second frame which supports a second side of the tray, and a third frame formed of a plate member which is narrower than the first frame and the second frame, to connect the first frame and the second frame and fixedly disposed under the main control board, the first frame and the second frame, wherein the third frame is positioned underneath the tray at a predetermined distance, when the tray is slid into the lower case".

Mitsunori fails to discuss "a third frame formed of a plate member which is narrower than the first frame and the second frame, **to connect the first frame and the second frame and fixedly disposed under the main control board, the first frame and the second frame, wherein the third frame is positioned underneath the tray at a predetermined distance, when the tray is slid into the lower case,** as recited in amended claim 1, for example".

At page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that bottom plate 11 of Mitsunori (see FIG. 1, for example) is comparable to the Applicant's "third frame" as recited in claim 1, for example. The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Instead, Mitsunori discloses a disk device 1 having a disk body 2 and a disk tray 4 which can be loaded and discharged from the disk body 2. The disk tray 4 includes an optical disk, a drive unit, an optical head, and an optical-head moving mechanism whereby all of these features are covered with a bottom plate 11 (see FIG. 1, for example). That is, **the bottom plate 11 of Mitsunori is an element of the disk tray 4 itself.** Thus, the bottom plate 11 is fixedly disposed to the bottom of the disk tray 4.

Dependent claims 2-10 depend from claim 1. Therefore, the comments mentioned above regarding claim 1, may also be applied to dependent claims 2-10. Further, dependent claims 2-

10 have patentably distinguishing features of their own, for example, claim 9 recites "a step formed on the tray, which corresponds to the height of the main control board to keep the tray from interfering with the main control board.

Thus, withdrawal of the rejections and objections are respectfully requested.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

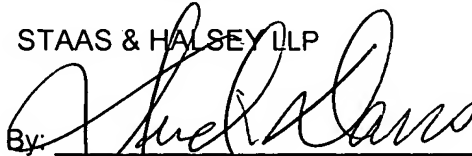
Respectfully submitted,

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